IN THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus[,] having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with [having] a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ site;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity with the severed end of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to ~~said~~ a severed ~~end~~ section of the side-wall of said second hollow organ.

2. (currently amended) A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two segments joined together on one side with [having] a hinge mechanism[,] and having a gap on another side for allowing said two segments to be spread apart, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said output end to ~~said~~ a severed ~~end~~ section of the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(c) positioning said input end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity with the site for anastomosis of the first hollow organ;

(d) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ site.

3. (currently amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus ~~having an input end, an output end,~~ comprising two pieces joined on one side by a hinge mechanism and having a opening slot on another side, said apparatus having an input end and an output end, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with

said input end and substantially engage a side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, said coupling apparatus positioning a tissue interface of said first hollow organ in close proximity with a tissue interface of said side-wall.

4. (canceled) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus is "T" shaped.

5. (canceled) The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus is "V" shaped.

6. (currently amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end, an output end, and comprising two pieces joined on one side by a hinge mechanism and having a gap on another side, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and substantially engage a side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, said coupling apparatus positioning a tissue interface of said first hollow organ in close proximity with a tissue interface of said side-wall~~, The apparatus of claim 3, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus is "U" shaped~~.

7. (currently amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end, an output end, and comprising two pieces joined on one side by a hinge mechanism and having a slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and substantially engage a side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, said coupling apparatus positioning a tissue interface of said first

hollow organ in close proximity with a tissue interface of said side-wall, ~~The apparatus of claim 3,~~ wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is fabricated from a biodegradable material.

8. (currently amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end, an output end, and comprising two pieces joined on one side by a hinge mechanism and having a slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and substantially engage a side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, said coupling apparatus positioning a tissue interface of said first hollow organ in close proximity with a tissue interface of said side-wall, ~~The apparatus of claim 3,~~ wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is fabricated from a biocompatible material.

9. (currently amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end, an output end, and comprising two pieces joined on one side by a hinge mechanism and having a slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and substantially engage a side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, said coupling apparatus positioning a tissue interface of said first hollow organ in close proximity with a tissue interface of said side-wall, ~~The apparatus of claim 3,~~ wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is fabricated from a polymeric material.

10. (currently amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end, an output end, and comprising two pieces joined on one side by a hinge mechanism and having a slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and substantially engage a side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, said coupling apparatus positioning a tissue interface of said first hollow organ in close proximity with a tissue interface of said side-wall, ~~The apparatus of claim 3,~~ wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is fabricated from a metallic material.

11. (previously amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and substantially engage a side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, said coupling apparatus positioning a tissue interface of said first hollow organ in close proximity with a tissue interface of said side-wall, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus has an acute angle between a longitudinal axis of said input end and an longitudinal axis of said output end of said apparatus.

12. (original) The apparatus of claim 11, wherein said acute angle is larger than 5 degrees.

13. (previously amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and substantially engage a side-wall of a second hollow organ with

said output end, said coupling apparatus positioning a tissue interface of said first hollow organ in close proximity with a tissue interface of said side-wall, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus has a right deflection angle between a right angle formed between the longitudinal axis of said input end and an axis parallel to the lip of a distal end of said input end.

14. (withdrawn) The apparatus of claim 3 wherein said right deflection angle is larger than 5 degrees.

15. (previously amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and substantially engage a side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, said coupling apparatus positioning a tissue interface of said first hollow organ in close proximity with a tissue interface of said side-wall, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus has a lip deflection angle between a right angle formed between the longitudinal axis said input end and an axis parallel the lip of a distal end of said input end.

16. (previously amended) The apparatus of claim 15, wherein said lip deflection angle is larger than 5 degrees.

17. (currently amended) ~~The apparatus of claim 1~~) A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end further comprising a means for remotely manipulating said anastomosis coupling apparatus for positioning and engaging said coupling apparatus to one of said hollow organs;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of the side-wall of said second hollow organ.

18. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~) A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to a severed section of the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of the side-wall of said second hollow organ wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is affixed to said severed ~~end~~ section by sutures.

19. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of the side-wall of said second hollow organ wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is affixed to said severed ~~end~~ section by staples.

20. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1,~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism

located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ ;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of the side wall of said second hollow organ wherein the adhering of the severed ~~end~~ section of the ~~first~~ second hollow organ is ~~effectuated~~ affixed by applying a biocompatible glue or adhesive.

21. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to said severed section of said second hollow organ wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is affixed to said severed ~~end~~ section by an any combination of sutures, staples, glue or adhesive.

22. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is affixed to said ~~severed end~~ first hollow organ by sutures;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of said second hollow organ.

23. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, wherein the first and second hollow organs are both vascular lumens;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of said second hollow organ.

24. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, wherein the first hollow organ is the left internal mammary artery;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of said second hollow organ.

25. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 1~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, wherein the second hollow organ is a coronary artery;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ;

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of said second hollow organ.

26. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 2~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said

apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ, wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is affixed to said ~~severed end~~ first hollow organ by sutures.

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed end of said second hollow organ.

27. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 2~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ, wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is affixed to said ~~severed end~~ first hollow organ by staples.

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of said second hollow organ.

28. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 2~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ site, wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling organ is ~~effectuated~~ is affixed to said first hollow organ by applying a biocompatible glue or adhesive.

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of said second hollow organ.

29. (currently amended) ~~The method of claim 2~~ A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing an anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two pieces joined together with a hinge mechanism located on a posterior side and having an opening slot located on an anterior side, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ, wherein said ~~specifically configured~~ anastomosis coupling is affixed to said severed end by an any combination of sutures, staples, glue or adhesive.

(c) positioning said output end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(d) affixing said output end to a severed section of said second hollow organ.

30. (withdrawn) The method of claim 2, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is affixed to said severed end by sutures.

31. (currently amended) A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two segments joined together on one side with [having] a hinge mechanism[,] and having a gap on another side for allowing said two segments to be spread apart, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said output end to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(c) positioning said input end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity with the site for anastomosis of the first hollow organ;

(d) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ site, wherein the first hollow organ is the left internal mammary artery.

32. (currently amended) A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two segments joined together on one side with [having] a hinge mechanism[,] and having a gap on another side for allowing said two segments to be spread apart, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end;

(b) affixing said output end to the side-wall of said second hollow organ, wherein the second hollow organ is a coronary artery;

(c) positioning said input end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity with the site for anastomosis of the first hollow organ;

(d) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ site.

33. **(currently amended)** **A method for establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between a severed end of a first hollow organ and a side-wall of a second hollow organ, the method comprising:**

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end and output end, said coupling apparatus comprising two segments joined together on one side with [having] a hinge mechanism[,] and having a gap on another side for allowing said two segments to be spread apart, said apparatus comprised to engage said severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and engage said side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end, wherein the first and second hollow organs are both vascular lumens;

(b) affixing said output end to the side-wall of said second hollow organ;

(c) positioning said input end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus in close proximity with the site for anastomosis of the first hollow organ;

(d) affixing said input end to said first hollow organ site.

34. (currently amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end [[and]] an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

35. (canceled) The method of claim 34, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus is "T" shaped.

36. (canceled) The method of claim 34, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus is "V" shaped.

37. (withdrawn) The method of claim 34, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus is "U" shaped.

38. (currently amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end [[and]] an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, ~~The method of claim 34~~, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is fabricated from a biodegradable material[.] , said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

39. (currently amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end [[and]] an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, ~~The method of claim 34~~, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is fabricated from a biocompatible material[.] , said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

40. (currently amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end [[and]] an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, ~~The method of claim 34~~, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is fabricated from a polymeric material[.] , said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

41. (currently amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end [[and]] an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, ~~The method of claim 34~~, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is fabricated from a metallic material[.] , said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

42. (currently amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end, an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ[.] ~~The method of claim 34,~~ wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is affixed to said severed end by sutures.

43. A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end, an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ[.] ~~The method of claim 34,~~ wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is affixed to said severed end by staples.

44. A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end, an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ, ~~The method of claim 34,~~ wherein the adhering of [the] a severed end of the first hollow organ is effectuated by applying a biocompatible glue or adhesive;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

45. (currently amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end, an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ[.] ~~The method of claim 34,~~ wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is affixed to said severed end by an any combination of sutures, staples, glue or adhesive.

46. (currently amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end, an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ[.] ~~The method of claim 34,~~ wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling is affixed to said severed end by sutures.

47. (currently amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end, an output end, and a hinge mechanism on one side and a opening slot on another side, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ, ~~The method of claim 34,~~ wherein the first hollow organ is the left internal mammary artery.

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ;

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

48. (previously amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus having an input end and output end, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus has an acute angle between a longitudinal axis of said input end and an longitudinal axis of said output end of said apparatus;

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ; and

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

49. (previously amended) The method of claim 48, wherein said acute angle is larger than 5 degrees.

50. (previously amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end and output end, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus has a right deflection angle between a right angle formed between the longitudinal axis of said input end and an axis parallel to the lip of a distal end of said input end.

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ; and

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

51. (previously amended) The method of claim 50, wherein said right deflection angle is larger than 5 degrees.

52. (previously amended) A method for performing a coronary bypass by establishing an end-to-side anastomosis between an arterial source of oxygenated blood and a coronary artery having a stenosis, the method comprising:

(a) introducing a specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus, having an input end and output end, said apparatus comprised to secure a first hollow organ to a second hollow organ, wherein said specifically configured anastomosis coupling apparatus has an lip deflection angle between a right angle formed between the longitudinal axis of said input end and an axis parallel the lip of a distal end of said input end.

(b) affixing a first end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a first hollow organ; and

(c) affixing a second end of said anastomosis coupling apparatus to a second hollow organ.

53. (previously amended) The method of claim 52, wherein said lip deflection angle is larger than 5 degrees.

54. (currently amended) An anastomosis coupling apparatus, said coupling apparatus having an input end, and output end, [and] a hinge <u>mechanism on one side and a gap on another side</u>, said apparatus comprised to substantially engage a severed end of a first hollow organ with said input end and substantially engage [said] <u>a</u> side-wall of a second hollow organ with said output end.

55. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 54, wherein said hinge mechanism allows said coupling apparatus to open said gap to attain an open configuration for positioning and securing said severed end of said first hollow organ within said input end.

56. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 54, where said hinge mechanism allows said coupling apparatus to close said gap and attain a closed configuration that substantially engages said severed end of said first hollow organ within said input end.